

court connection

NORTH COUNTRY REGION PRESENTS VOLUME I ISSUE III
November 1, 2019



FALL HUDDLE REVIEW



North Country Region's inaugural FALL HUDDLE meeting is in the books - BIG SUCCESS! The NCR team hosted member club directors, tournament directors and officials at the Mall of America Executive Center on Saturday, October 19 for a full day of great discussions, strategic planning, valuable training opportunities and of course, some delicious food and the chance to network with our region brethren! We would like to thank our presenters - Amy Neis (AES), Travis Karlin (NCR Officials' Chair) and Eric Barreras (U.S. Center for SafeSport) - for their invaluable contributions! For those who couldn't attend, more **HUDDLE HIGHLIGHTS** are below.



Photo from left to right - Crysta Christensen (NCR), Jason Hackenmueller (Hammerhead VB & NCR Board of Directors), Eric Barreras (U.S. Center for SafeSport), Travis Karlin (NCR Officials' Chair) and Sandy Sweetser (NCR)

- North Country Region has returned to living the vision and mission of Growing the Game. The Region continues to expand OPPORTUNITIES for individuals of all ages, interests and abilities who want to play the sport of volleyball in a SAFE environment.
- Focus for the 2020 season will be GOLD (sanctioned) tournaments - USA Volleyball - North Country Region member clubs will support one another's events and #PathToThePodium. By having your teams play in other NCR member Gold tournaments, you are providing your players and parents with a competitive AND quality experience and better ensured Safe-Zone Environment.
- **NEW THIS YEAR** - NCR Podium events are NCR's premiere events AND they have REGION RANKING implications.
- OFFICIATING OPPORTUNITIES - Podium events create quality work opportunities for our officials. Events that use USA Volleyball Certified officials and USA Volleyball work teams rate high on event quality surveys and participant satisfaction.
- **NEW** Officials Pay Scale was rolled out for officials who work NCR run events.
- **NEW** and first time EVER in NCR history, we will be hosting a National Training Camp for Officials. An expert training team from USAV will be in town February 7-9, 2020 during SmackFest week 1 to conduct this training. More details to come!



Huddle Attendee, Laurie Dinneen (Official) won the raffle grand price - \$100 Visa Gift Card!



OFFICIALS TRAINING CAMP FEBRUARY 7 - 9, 2020

In line with the 2019 -2020 strategic plan to Grow the Officials, North Country Region is hosting the Region's **FIRST EVER** Officials Clinic run by the **USA Volleyball Officials National Training Team.**

REGISTRATION OPEN - CLICK HERE FOR INFO

COMMERCIAL BREAK Fall Huddle State of the Region Address





The Car Ride Home



A PLACE FOR VOLLEYBALL PARENTS

North Country Region's website has a section dedicated to **YOU**, the parent! With the assistance of local sports psychologists, leaders in sports, USA Volleyball and club directors, the North Country Region staff collects, updates and provides resources to better serve the entire membership

Goal Setting Start for Your Young Athlete - Template to Enjoying the Learning Process

My main goal is to become the best player I can be. Only I am responsible for my own actions. I am fully committed to this team and therefore **I will**:

Conduct myself in a manner to bring credit, prestige and honor to this team;

Budget my time to meet all my responsibilities in work, learning and other personal area;

Attend every practice, match and team function, being on time or early;

Pursue mental and physical conditioning outside of practice;

Communicate, both on and off the court, for mutual understanding;

Support the full effort and the good skills my teammates exhibit;

Concentrate and be focused, not creating distractions nor worrying about worrying;

Perform with full effort and intensity, to the best of my ability, in all training and competition.

Discipline my body for health, including adequate sleep, a healthy diet, and avoiding alcohol and smoking;

Recognize the unique challenges of volleyball to learn from my mistakes only, never making excuses;

Accept all coaching comments and assignments as ways in which our team and I might improve;

Ignore the errors of my teammates, as I believe no one is making a mistake on purpose;

*"I'm not the most physical person, not the tallest, not the skinniest. You can't listen to anybody. Just know your dreams. Know how hard you can work. Work hard, have fun doing it, and you can really make it places that you really never thought you would. Dedication, passion and heart gets you where you want to be." - Lindsey Berg
3 time Olympian*



North Country Region will be launching a Region High Performance program in 2020. The mission of the initiative is to identify, train, and develop athletes and coaches to build a sustainable pathway to reach the elite levels of our sport.

North Country Region will have indoor tryouts at collegiate facilities for junior girls and boys located around the region. Through the tryout process, we will select athletes and coaches to attend the North Country Region High Performance Camp in July.

The dates and locations of the tryouts will be announced before the start of the season. For more information and proposed locations, please visit the High Performance page on our website by clicking any of the links connected to this article.

#PaveAPathNotAShortcut



Junior Club Director HUB



NEW Athletes 18 years of age or turning 18 during the club season are **required to complete "Core" Center for SafeSport training (per USOPC and U.S.Center for SafeSport policies).** No Cost to Members

Parents of minors must complete Junior Athlete SafeSport Consent Form to have access to the training through USAV Academy. Recommend to have all 17s complete the free training so no issues with adding player to a roster.

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS CONSENT FORM](#)

Recommend

- All 17 year olds in club complete training to avoid potential roster issues during club season
- Complete training **EARLY** - 90 minutes on line
- Directions on how to access SafeSport through USAV Academy - [CLICK HERE](#)

WHAT IS A GRADE TEAM?



A "Club" that has a Junior Player, whose date of birth places them in an age division older than their current grade (USAV Age Definitions). If all team members are in the same grade or younger, the team can be made a "grade team" to accommodate the player who is older but in the same grade.

For more information about grade teams, requesting an age waiver, and rostering a grade team, [CLICK HERE](#).

Grow Your Coaches

For You!



The American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) and North Country Region are AGAIN affiliated partners for the 2019 - 2020 season. Coaches and club directors who have met the Safety and Training Requirements to be on a USA Volleyball roster will have access to the following beginning in January 2020:

- Education Tip of the Week
- Recruiting Tip of the Week
- Coaches of the Year Awards
- Club Director of the Year

SPECIAL CLUB MEMBERSHIP PRICING FOR CLUB DIRECTORS AND THEIR COACHES - CONTACT AVCA HERE. REQUEST REGION RATE



Quick Links for Clubs How-To...

Grade Teams Information

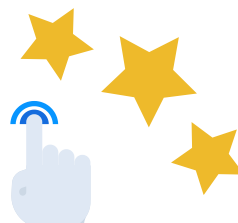
[SafeSport - Parent Consent Form for 17 under training](#)
[Membership Directions and Registration](#)
[Membership Benefits Chart](#)
[Webpoint - Club Admin Manual](#)
[Webpoint - How to Print Membership Card](#)
[Webpoint - Roster Information](#)
[Webpoint - Add or Edit a Team](#)
[Letter of Commitment](#)
[Activate Club on North Country Region Club Directory](#)
[Tournament Sanctioning](#)
[Tournaments Registration and Information](#)
[Region Rank Tournament Information](#)
[Certificate of Insurance Request](#)
[Incident - Injury Report](#)
[Junior Medical Release Form - coaches keep](#)
[Background Screen - How to Register](#)
[Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy Information](#)
[Team Codes](#)
[Officiating - Request In Person Clinic](#)
[Officiating - Online Training Instructions](#)
[Junior Club Directory Information](#)
[Junior Players Wanted - Request Form](#)
[Roster Requirements](#)
[Tryout Sanctioning Form - List your Tryout](#)

For You!



Information coming soon on criteria for consideration and how to access the benefit.

North Country Region and the Art of Coaching have teamed up for another year to provide a coaching benefit to North Country Region eligible coaches. North Country Region will provide 120 Art of Coaching subscriptions. Once the 120 subscription threshold has been met, Art of Coaching has provided NCR with a deeply discounted subscription price for North Country Region members.



Click Here for More Information

2020 Tournaments - GET RANKED



Each year, USA Volleyball's North Country Region sanctions some of the most prestigious and successful volleyball tournaments in the nation. These sanctioned events are designated as **NCR GOLD MEDAL** tournaments. These tournaments are hosted by NCR-USAV member clubs and meet all Region sanctioning requirements including current membership affiliation, verification of all safety and training compliance and use of USAV tournament registration and roster verification resources.

Teams participating in a North Country Region **GOLD MEDAL** competition can rest assured that the event will be of the highest quality and value.



Like **GOLD MEDAL** events, **NCR PODIUM** tournaments are premier volleyball events; but **PODIUM** events also have important region rank implications. **PODIUM** tournaments offer NCR teams the opportunity to receive **"REGION RANK"** points awarded for both competition and finish.

Beginning in January 2020, cumulative region rank points will be updated weekly on NCRUSAV.org; then following the 2020 junior volleyball season, NCR will announce the top ranked teams in each age division! Because of the ranking opportunities involved, R1 officials are utilized at **PODIUM** events. **REGION RANK INFO HERE**



What does it mean when a tournament is sanctioned by NCR - USA Volleyball?

It means.....

- the host club is committed to providing a safe and respectful environment for participants both on and off the court
- ... teams are playing in a tournament where ALL adults working regularly in ANY capacity with minors (coaches, club directors, chaperones, tournament directors, officials, etc.) have passed a rigorous USA Volleyball approved background screen and participate in ongoing SafeSport and IMPACT training
- ... the host club and its tournament are insured by USAV and supported and assisted locally by the North Country Region in-house staff
- ... athletes are playing at their appropriate age level and are following the eligibility rules set forth for the sport of volleyball by USAV
- ... paid officials, as well as scorers and youth work teams, are trained properly on the rules of volleyball as provided by USAV
- ... all events including PODIUM and GOLD MEDAL tournaments are promoted through valuable NCR-USAV marketing resources to over 400 member clubs and over 18,000 individual members

EVENTS EVENTS EVENTS EVENTS EVENTS #EARNIT



"A one time fee of \$50 per player allows all players more opportunities to compete in any event across the Region and Nation. More importantly, participating in tournaments sanctioned through USA Volleyball - North Country Region keeps the players protected, coaches have been vetted, the club is insured. I love the accountability. I will also support the tournament directors who attend my events by attending their USAV - NCR events. It is simple support for the little guys supporting the little guys." - NCR Tournament Director



Safe Zone Environment, USA Volleyball Sanctioned, Rosters Validated, North Country Region Staff On Site, Awards, Reasonable Entry Fees & REGION RANK POINTS!



In line with the 2019 -2020 strategic plan to Grow the Officials, North Country Region is hosting the Region's **FIRST EVER** Officials Clinic run by the **USA Volleyball Officials National Training Team**.

OFFICIALS TRAINING CAMP FEBRUARY 7 - 9, 2020



November 1 - NCR Officials **Early Bird** registration camp fee - \$100
December 1 - NCR Officials non early bird registration camp fee - \$125
December 1 - other Region registration camp fee - \$150

INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION - [CLICK HERE](#)